

## **Best Practice: Mobile Diesel Light Towers**



Light tower shown with lighting mast in the lowered position

**Category:** Lighting

**Location First** 

**Observed:** Port of Izmir, Turkey

**Date First** 

**Observed:** February, 2005

**Description:** The facility has purchased a mobile diesel powered light tower that can be positioned as needed to provide supplemental lighting on the port.

**Discussion**: A mobile diesel powered light tower provides two definite benefits; the mobility to quickly move it to areas of specific temporary concern, threat response, or cargo operations, and the ability to provide effective lighting during power outages affecting other facility lighting. The light tower on this particular model can be elevated to a height of 40 feet. In event of damage to or repair operations on perimeter fencing, a mobile light tower can illuminate temporarily unsecured areas, deterring and enhancing the ability to detect trespassers. For facilities without effective backup power generators, a light tower is invaluable for providing protective lighting during times of power outages. Smaller, less expensive variations can be assembled using a small gas powered electric generator and small halogen light towers. Diesel light towers can lower their light towers to enhance their ability to be moved around.

**Potential Down-side:** Care must be taken to ensure that generator and hot lights are not used in flammable or explosive environments. Generators must be maintained to ensure they will work when needed.

**Conclusion:** For facilities without reliable backup power for their security lighting, or where intermittent lighting needs or other security needs exist, a mobile diesel powered light tower can be highly effective at improving lighting and facility security.

**Cost:** \$500 - \$20,000 USD, depending on height, wattage, fuel capacity, and other features.